

PAUL COMMEMORATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF CLUTE, TEXAS

Washington, DC: Congressman Ron Paul delivered the following remarks in the House of Representative yesterday to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Clute, Texas.

"Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Clute, Texas, which will be celebrated on June 2, 2002. Clute is a city of just over 10,000 citizens in Brazoria County on the coast of Texas. Clute has a very rich heritage and played an important role in the development of the proud state of Texas.

The City of Clute began as land deeded to Alexander Calvit by Stephen F. Austin, when holdings were parceled out to the "Old 300"- the first settlers in Texas. These settlers had to be tough, as living on the Texas coastland in the early days was not for the weak or faint of heart.

Though the living was hard, these early settlers contributed many things to the advancement of our state. The first milled lumber plantation house was built in Clute. Bricks used to build homes and buildings all over the coast of Texas were made from the high grade clay that was found only in Clute. That clay was used to make structures at Ft. Velasco, where in 1832 the Brazoria Militia staged the first battle for Texas Independence.

Now, many years later, Clute is still growing and achieving. Citizens raise their families in quiet and serene neighborhoods, while contributing to some of the greatest chemical and industrial achievements in modern America.

The face of Clute has changed but the people are still the same brave, hardworking Texans that helped mold the Republic.

I am pleased to extend my best wishes to the people of Clute as the town celebrates its 50th birthday of incorporation and over 170 years of habitation by the original settlers of Texas. I am

sure all my colleagues join me in extending congratulations and wishes for many more years of progress to the community of Clute, Texas."